

Ser. No. 10/733,503

Remarks

Claims 1-13 were pending in the application. Claims 1-7 and 9 were rejected. Claims 10-13 were withdrawn. Claim 8 was merely objected to and no claims were allowed. By the foregoing amendment, no claims are canceled, no claims are amended, and claims 14-17 are added. No new matter is presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 8.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 2, and 4 were rejected as being anticipated by Goddard (US2465525).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Goddard discloses a reaction combustion chamber for a rocket. The assertion at page 3 of the Office action that Goddard is "in the same field of endeavor as applicant's invention and as described in applicant's claims 1, 2, and 4" is clearly erroneous. The final paragraph of page 3 of the Office action, however, identifies the reading-out of the element of cleaning a surface within a vessel as being a statement of intended use. This raises separate issues.

In either event, there is no identification that the Goddard device generates a shockwave. Furthermore, no wall has been identified.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 103

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goddard.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The rejection suffers the same deficiency as does the underlying rejection of claim 1.

Claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goddard in view of Hunter, Jr. (US5494004). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The rejection suffers the same deficiency as does the underlying rejection of claim 1. Hunter, Jr. is in the sootblower art. It is, however, pure bootstrapping to combine Hunter, Jr. with the Goddard reference from a different art. Furthermore, there is no support for the proposed a la

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carte selection of elements from Hunter, Jr. and Goddard. There is no support for the assertion that the supports 153R and 153F of Hunter, Jr. constitute "a plurality of trolleys". Furthermore, the asserted motivation "of facilitating the advancement of the pulsed detonation device into and out of the openings of the vessel" is achieved by Hunter, Jr. alone. Thus, there is no suggestion to seek modification, let alone any based upon Goddard.

Hunter, Jr., alone, is informative. Goddard substantially predates Hunter, Jr. Had it been obvious to adopt features of Goddard in a combustive/detonative sootblower, Hunter, Jr. would presumably have done it.

Claims 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goddard in view of Boisture (US5031691). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The rejection suffers the same deficiency as does the underlying rejection of claim 1. Additionally, there is clearly no suggestion to combine. Boisture relates to "cleaning the interior of several tubes within a heat exchanger bundle..." Col. 1, lines 17&18 (emphasis added).

Cleaning is via high pressure water flowed through the lances. Col. 4, line 17. Clearly this is an utterly different/non-analogous art from Goddard. Although within the broad art of cleaning of industrial equipment, it is noted that the cleaning of the interiors of tubes with water is an utterly different situation from combustive cleaning (e.g., used for exterior surfaces). It is thus a non-analogous situation within a broad general art to that of the present invention.

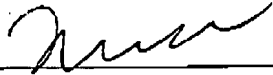
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Accordingly, Applicants submits that claims 1-17 are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees or deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account of record.

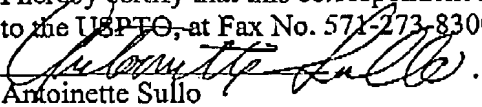
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Date: May 21, 2007

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2007 to the USPTO, at Fax No. 571-273-8300.

  
Antoinette Sullo